

**Claims**

- 5        1 A method for diagnosis of pre-eclampsia which comprises measuring urate in a biological sample.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sample is from maternal saliva.
- 10       3. A method as claimed in the above claims, wherein the urate is measured by means of a timed end point method.
4. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the urate is measured by means of a dry test method.
- 15       5. A method as claimed in any of the above claims, wherein the urate is measured by means of a dip stick method.
6. The use of urate levels in the saliva as an indicator of pre-eclampsia.
- 20       7. A diagnostic kit for performing the method of any one of the above claims, wherein the kit comprises reagents for the determination of the level of urate in a biological sample.
- 25       8. A test equipment for performing the method in claims 1 and 2 of, wherein the test equipment comprises reagents for the determination of the level of urate in a biological sample.